

02-277

**From:** Robert Simmons  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 1:15 PM  
**Subject:** broadcast ownership rules

Dear sirs:

I would like to express my strong opposition to changing the rules of broadcast ownership that protects American citizens from media monopolies. I do not want to see a few individuals controlling the media. I strongly urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protection rules that are now in place.

Thank you,  
Robert E. Simmons  
Gassville, Ar. 72635

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Bruce Campbell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 1:18 PM  
**Subject:** regulation of radio

To: FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell

Commissioners Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Kevin J. Martin, Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear Commissioner:

I am pleased to learn that the FCC is launching a review of media ownership rules. I am appalled at the massive media mergers that have changed the face of American broadcasting over the last decade. Entire communities are no longer being served by independent voices, local news and programming. Previous relaxation of ownership rules have gutted commercial radio of its variety, color, independence and sense of competition. This can hardly be deemed "broadcasting in the public interest."

The days of competing local radio formats have been replaced by homogenized rebroadcasts of the same satellite feeds from the same national sources to practically every market in the nation. This is particularly evident in smaller cities like Santa Barbara, CA where one company, Clear Channel, now owns seven radio stations- a literal stranglehold on the local radio band.

We need to encourage independent ownership and diversity of programming. There was inherent wisdom in earlier FCC rulings that imposed strict limits on the amount of stations one company could own. The same may be said of FCC rules prohibiting one company from owning a broadcasting station and a newspaper in the same market.

The idea that the FCC may further loosen ownership rules is preposterous. The time has come to rescind the previous relaxations of these rules, to re-impose ownership limits, to reinstate rules requiring annual local programming assessments, and to force media behemoths like Clear Channel and Infinity to diversify their holdings.

To allow the most popular sources of news, information and entertainment to be owned by a small handful of people across the nation and in any one community is extremely dangerous for our democratic process.

Thank you,

Bruce Campbell

625 E. Cypress

Reedley Ca 95654

559 638 6400

**From:** Michele Mosher  
**To:** Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 1:29 PM  
**Subject:** Media Deregulation

To: FCC Commissioners

Re: FCC vote on media deregulation.

Please oppose media deregulation. A variety of media viewpoints and ownership is essential to the health of a democracy. Please do not support further consolidation of our media.

Michele Mosher  
5707 Plateau Dr.  
Felton, CA 95018

**From:** tsweet13@yahoo.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 1:37 PM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Willette Coleman  
P.O. Box 13403  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20911

cc:  
Senator Paul Sarbanes  
Senator Barbara Mikulski  
Representative Albert Wynn

**From:** Melvin Marion  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:04 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. Some of these large media corporations, that are now lobbying the FCC to relax the ownership rules, already have a known track record of attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. In my view, we already have too much control by large print media corporations which provide the local population with only biased viewpoints on some issues and, in many cases, do not provide the complete unbiased facts. The broadcast media is my only source of the facts on many issues.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues and they deserve to be provided with the facts. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country. If anything needs to be changed, the FCC should require that both the broadcast and the print media present the people with the complete facts of an issue, not the biased, half-truths and lies that are being presented today by much of the media. The FCC should not permit the public broadcast frequencies to be used to further the agenda of any person or group.

Sincerely,  
Melvin J. Marion  
1772 Swamp Road  
Richmond, MA 01254

**From:** Laura Lester  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:16 PM  
**Subject:** Stop Further Deregulation of Radio

To: FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell

Commissioners Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Kevin J. Martin, Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein,  
Senators Saxby Chambliss, Zell Miller

Dear Chairman:

I am pleased to learn that the FCC is launching a review of media ownership rules. I am appalled at the massive media mergers that have changed the face of American broadcasting over the last decade. Entire communities are no longer being served by independent voices, local news and programming. Previous relaxation of ownership rules have gutted commercial radio of its variety, color, independence and sense of competition. This can hardly be deemed "broadcasting in the public interest."

The days of competing local radio formats have been replaced by homogenized rebroadcasts of the same satellite feeds from the same national sources to practically every market in the nation. This is particularly evident in smaller cities like Santa Barbara, CA where one company, Clear Channel, now owns seven radio stations- a literal stranglehold on the local radio band.

We need to encourage independent ownership and diversity of programming. There was inherent wisdom in earlier FCC rulings that imposed strict limits on the amount of stations one company could own. The same may be said of FCC rules prohibiting one company from owning a broadcasting station and a newspaper in the same market.

The idea that the FCC may further loosen ownership rules is preposterous. The time has come to rescind the previous relaxations of these rules, to re-impose ownership limits, to reinstate rules requiring annual local programming assessments, and to force media behemoths like Clear Channel and Infinity to diversify their holdings. This is not healthy competition.

To allow the most popular sources of news, information and entertainment to be owned by a small handful of people across the nation and in any one community is extremely dangerous for our democratic process.

Please, please, please! Stop the monopolization of our airwaves. The silencing of diversity in broadcasting is a stealth assault on democracy, and the FCC is our last line of defense!

Thank you,

Laura Lester  
588 Stokeswood Ave.  
Atlanta GA 30316  
404.577.8656

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein,  
saxby\_chambliss@chambliss.senate.gov, zell\_miller@miller.senate.gov

**From:** shandal sullivan  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:18 PM  
**Subject:** FCC Review of Media Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to learn that the FCC is launching a review of media ownership rules. I am appalled at the massive media mergers that have changed the face of American broadcasting over the last decade. Entire communities are no longer being served by independent voices, local news and programming. Previous relaxation of ownership rules have gutted commercial radio of its variety, color, independence and sense of competition, in short it's representation of what America is. This can hardly be deemed "broadcasting in the public interest."

The days of competing local radio formats have been replaced by homogenized rebroadcasts of the same satellite feeds from the same national sources to practically every market in the nation. This is particularly evident in smaller cities like Santa Barbara, California, where one company, Clear Channel, now owns seven radio stations-a literal stranglehold on the local radio band.

We need to encourage independent ownership and diversity of programming. There was inherent wisdom in earlier FCC rulings that imposed strict limits on the amount of stations one company could own. The same may be said of FCC rules prohibiting one company from owning a broadcasting station and a newspaper in the same market.

The idea that the FCC may further loosen ownership rules is horrifying. The time has come to rescind the previous relaxations of these rules, to re-impose ownership limits, to reinstate rules requiring annual local programming assessments, and to force media bullies like Clear Channel and Infinity to diversify their holdings. Least we forget our country's dark age of robber barons.

To allow the most popular sources of news, information and entertainment to be owned by a small handful of people across the nation and in any one community is extremely dangerous for our democratic process. That is not democracy; that is fascism.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Shandal Sullivan

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**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein



**From:** SewzGud@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:20 PM  
**Subject:** June 2, 2003 Meeting --- Media Deregulation

Subj: June 2, 2003 Meeting: Deregulation  
Date: 5/2/2003 1:08:54 PM Central Daylight Time  
From: SewzGud  
To: ecfs@fcc.gov  
CC: rhh2415@insightbb.com

Mr. Powell,

Just because you may be able to legally push through more deregulation of American media doesn't mean that you are morally doing the right thing.

From out here, in the electorate, it looks as though your obvious bias toward more deregulation of the media is motivated either out of ignorance of its effects or for your personal desire for something in return. If there is any other credible explanation, I would really like to know what it is.

The victims in this effort may seem anonymous and faceless to you and others, but your statements and actions show a real contempt for the majority of citizens in this country. Has the difference between right and wrong become so distorted to you that you don't even see that this is wrong? Money, position and power are not the real goals in this life. In the end, it's the good you have put into the world that will give you peace. You may not have time for this now, but some day, you will. By then, the wrong that you commit today will be impossible to correct.

I hope that you will reconsider your position. I will say prayers that you will receive the wisdom and strength to do so.

Sincerely,  
B. De Lap  
Edina, MN

**From:** Uhrick, Annette  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:32 PM  
**Subject:** Relaxing Media Ownership Limits

Mr. Powell,

You are doing an enormous disservice to the First Amendment by rushing toward relaxation of media ownership limits. The airwaves belong to the people and should be used to inform them, rather than lobotomize them with "American Idol XXIV" or the like.

Advances in technology matter not: the only salient issue is that media should serve the people, not the government nor a private company. Increases in numbers of cable channels have not improved programming; concentration of ownership of radio stations has not produced a higher quality product for the listener.

Claims that media are delivering what the audience wants are laughable. They are delivering the least expensive, highest-profit-margin product possible, and the lack of choice is tolerated by our nation of sheep.

I shudder to think what the future holds if you manage to push through revised, relaxed regulations on ownership limits: NOTHING positive for the American public will result.

Annette Uhrick  
7652 Gheils Carroll Road  
Morrow Ohio 45152

\*\*\*\*\*

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Thank you.

FADLD Tag

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**From:** Brett Whitlow  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:43 PM  
**Subject:** Comments to the Commissioner

Brett Whitlow (bwhitlow@hallmarkent.com) writes:

I urge you to delay the vote on relaxing rules for media consolidation. It is alarming that this issue has not been covered in the mainstream media and may come to a vote without a wide public discussion on the issues. This happens to be a direct result of the already relaxed rules. The public is subjected to less diverse opinions and sources of opinions because of increased corporate media consolidation. The airwaves belong to the public, but we have less and less access to our airwaves and this issue needs to be brought to the proper public forum. Thank you for your time and I hope the FCC can act in the people's favor rather than the big business which will force us to listen to what they deem "news-worthy."

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Server protocol: HTTP/1.1  
Remote host: 38.184.0.193  
Remote IP address: 38.184.0.193

**From:** Pat Smith  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:50 PM  
**Subject:** On behalf of Andy Watts - Re: Media Monopolies

Messrs. Powell, Martin, Adelstein, Copps  
Ms. Abernathy:

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Andy Watts  
aw@awatts.com  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104-4680

**CC:** Andy Watts

**From:** DavidL1329@aol.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 2:52 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Rules

The Honorable Michael K. Powell, Chairman  
The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner  
The Honorable Michael J. Copps, Commissioner  
The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect us from media monopolies. Please do not allow one company to gain total or near-total control over radio and television news in any given area, and thereby allow censorship of any opposing viewpoints. Our freedoms are dependent on the free flow of information. If we allow one company complete control of public information, we can only expect our freedoms to be restricted.

Thank you,  
David Higgins  
Lakeland, Tennessee

**From:** Tom Fray  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 3:05 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Docket - 02-277

The "relaxation" of what is already disastrously under regulated airwaves will create a propaganda machine even more evil, twisted, and destructive than the one at maximum effect during the brainwashing of the illegal Iraq invasion! The media already determines elections, sways public opinion, and "governs" the masses.

Case in point: Clear Channel and Fox News amongst the most blatant.

Let us remind you - these are PUBLIC airwaves - NOT CORPORATE!!! YOU answer to US - NOT vice versa!

You know damn well the overwhelming power the media has on a delusional American public - they believe whatever the "boob-tube" or other "mainstream" source tells them!

This must not be allowed to happen! On the contrary - this mass propaganda machine must be disassembled and restructured with the interest of the PEOPLE at hand!

WE THE PEOPLE - NOT YOU THE CORPORATE/GOVERNMENT INTERESTS ARE TO BE SERVED.  
Do your JOB - or simply be replaced!

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**From:** Ron Belanger  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 3:32 PM  
**Subject:** Re-regulate --- reduce media consolidation

The FCC is shortly to decide whether to further de-regulate rules on media ownership.

I ask you not to loosen, but to tighten rules which control the number of media outlets which can be owned by any entity and to restrict the ability of entities to own a large number of media outlets in one market.

We used to do this correctly and the American people were well served with a diverse choice of radio, television and cable programming. With the concentration that has already happened we have seen a host of problems.

Clear Channel and Infinity now own most stations in most markets. Clear Channel clearly demonstrated the danger of this concentration during the recent Oil War in Iraq when it acted as a cheer leader for the war mongers and lied to Americans about the war and the actions of our own government.

Clear Channel served as a propaganda outlet for the extreme right wing instead of airing balanced information. You must correct this problem with appropriate sanctions against the offenders and make it less likely to happen in the future by reducing media concentration.

Clear Channel lies, cheats, stifles dissent and ABSOLUTELY controls access to the air waves in many markets.

This is untenable and it is inconceivable that the FCC would contemplate making this situation worse rather than fixing this serious abuse of the public trust. That's OUR bandwidth... not yours... not theirs!

There is another danger. We no longer get local news on our local radio stations. The last time we had a serious wild fire here in San Diego none of the radio stations could be contacted to make public safety announcements about the fire. They were all on autopilot feeding San Diegans pre-digested programming from some central control station in another part of the country. This is wrong. This is dangerous.

Local stations should be just that... local. If I want to own a station in San Diego I will be prevented from doing so by Clear Channel and Infinity. They've already trashed our excellent local stations and are feeding us satellite radio on local transmitters. Your job is to ensure fair access to the PUBLIC AIRWAVES... they belong to us... not to Clear Channel and Infinity.

We pay you to regulate... not to de-regulate. Do your job.

Ron Belanger  
7122 Cather Court  
San Diego, CA 92122  
(858) 450-1108



**From:** Johnny Tightlips  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 3:38 PM  
**Subject:** Media Concentration

I'm scared about what I read about the FCC deregulating media ownership. If we limit ourselves to fewer viewpoints, we limit debate of our contries politics. I hope this doesn't happen. The FCC should do what's best in the public's interest, not the interest of media conglomerates.

Thanks,

Aziz Ansari  
Concerned Citizen

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**CC:** kabernathy@fcc.gov, Michael Copps, Kevin Martin, jadelstein@fcc.gov

**From:** Ray McGrath  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 3:58 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Powell:

I write to urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules.

The issue of broadcast ownership rules go beyond mere economic matters, and go to the core of the potential for political discourse within the Republic. Monopoly ownership, be it of broadcast properties and or a combination of broadcast and print outlets within markets and across markets, will surely strangle political discussion. If anything, the present rules need to be tightened as they apply to a single markets.

I urge you and your fellow commissioners to weigh the issue of broadcast ownership rules on the political scales, not simply the economic scales.

With best regards,

Ray McGrath  
5856 Old Canton Road  
Jackson, MS 39211  
(601) 956-4566

**From:** VFitzp@cs.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 4:03 PM  
**Subject:** Ownership Monopolies

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect us from media monopolies.

I believe the proposed changes would allow large conglomerates to gain control of too much of our radio and TV news.

The American people need to have a variety of opinions on the information that is presented to us.

Sincerely,

Vincent F. Fitzpatrick

**From:** Wendy Richards  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 4:12 PM  
**Subject:** Comments to the Commissioner

Wendy Richards (wr@marteladvisors.com) writes:

I understand you are coming to the Bay Area for a public hearing on Media Ownership. Please let me know the dates for this meeting. I would like to express my views against any further consolidation of our US media.

Please maintain diversity of our media.

Thankyou.

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Server protocol: HTTP/1.1  
Remote host: 63.206.93.111  
Remote IP address: 63.206.93.111

**From:** al\_and\_doreen@netzero.net  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 4:23 PM  
**Subject:** Broadcast ownership rules

merican people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protection that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Albert P. Bushey  
246 Concord Rd.  
Longmeadow, MA 01106-1600

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** paulamae77@juno.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 5:15 PM  
**Subject:** FCC Vote...

Dear Commissioner:

Regarding the upcoming FCC vote, further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high

cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues, most notably the drive to war in Iraq. As

an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Thank you,

Paula Moerland, NYC

**From:** Jones, Thomas  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 5:19 PM  
**Subject:** Relaxation of FCC Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Honorable Michael K. Powell, Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Honorable Michael J. Copps, Honorable Kevin J. Martin, and Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein:

I would like to urge you to not allow the relaxation of the FCC broadcast ownership rules. My reasons for opposing the changes are as follows:

- If proposed "broadcast ownership rules" are adopted, independent voices in cities across the United States could be snuffed out by huge media corporations.
- Whole communities and even whole states and regions could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor.
- \* The big media conglomerates have in the past used their power to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. These proposed rule changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of newspapers.
- \* Many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes - including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC - are precisely the same companies that have tried in the past to keep your viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Thomas K. Jones, Jr., Ph.D.

**From:** Jay Lyon  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 5:28 PM  
**Subject:** Media ownership deregulation

Dear Mr. Powell:

Concentration of media into fewer hands would harm both diversity of viewpoints and balance of local and non-local news. Please respect the needs of listeners, readers and viewers by ensuring that big money doesn't have the final say on what we hear, read, and see.

Sincerely,  
Jay Lyon  
572 29th St. #3  
SF CA 94131



**From:** Gene Foster  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Fri, May 2, 2003 5:33 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Relaxation of FCC Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Honorable Michael K. Powell, Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Honorable Michael J. Copps, Honorable Kevin J. Martin, and Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein:

I would like to urge you to not allow the relaxation of the FCC broadcast ownership rules. My reasons for opposing the changes are as follows:

- If proposed "broadcast ownership rules" are adopted, independent voices in cities across the United States could be snuffed out by huge media corporations.
- \* Whole communities and even whole states and regions could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor.
- \* The big media conglomerates have in the past used their power to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. These proposed rule changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of newspapers.
- \* Many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes - including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC - are precisely the same companies that have tried in the past to keep your viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Gene Foster